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28 March 1956

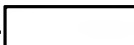


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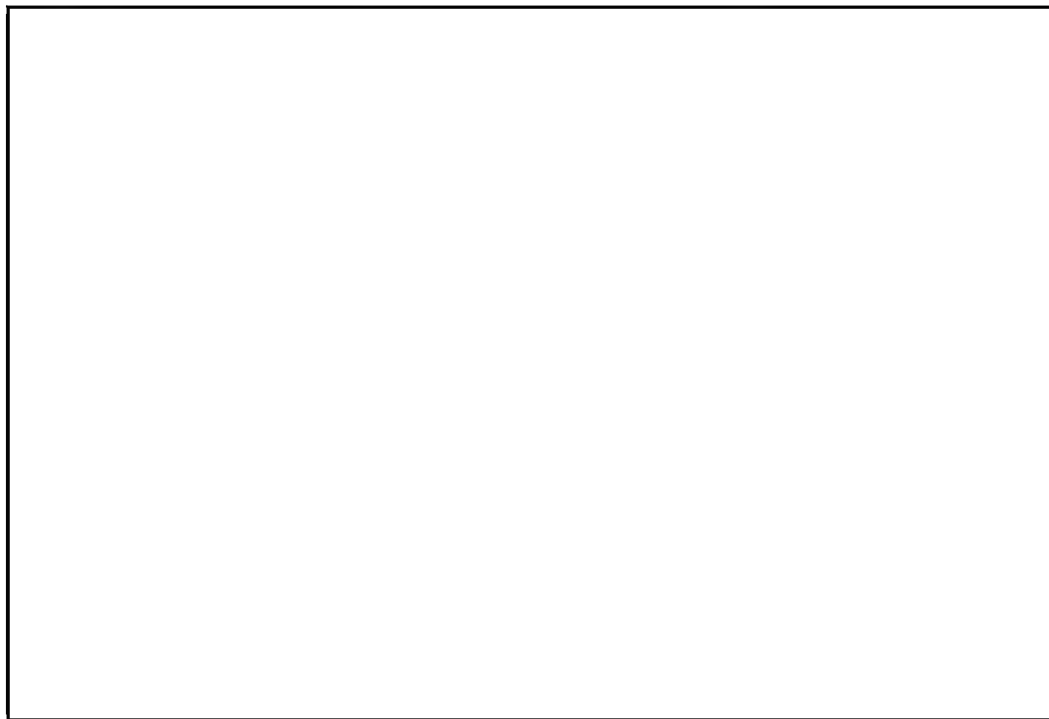
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**OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**



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CONTENTS

1. REACTIONS WITHIN THE USSR TO ATTACKS ON STALIN
25X1A [] (page 3).
2. WEST GERMANS INCREASINGLY IMPATIENT WITH NATO
25X1A [] (page 4).
3. MALENKOV SAYS BULGANIN AND KHRUSHCHEV WILL
STRESS DISARMAMENT DURING LONDON VISIT [] 25X1A
(page 5).
4. EAST GERMAN WORKERS OPPOSE FORMATION OF ARMY
25X1A [] (page 6).

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25X1A
THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
[] (page 7)

1. REACTIONS WITHIN THE USSR TO ATTACKS ON STALIN

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The American embassy in Moscow reports that a Soviet army captain recently expressed surprise to a Western diplomat that Stalin was still in the Red Square mausoleum and that many of his pictures were still up in Moscow. He asserted that "practically all" of Stalin's pictures in Gorky, where he is stationed,

had been removed and that none remained in his unit's barracks.

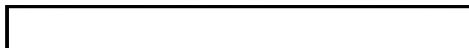
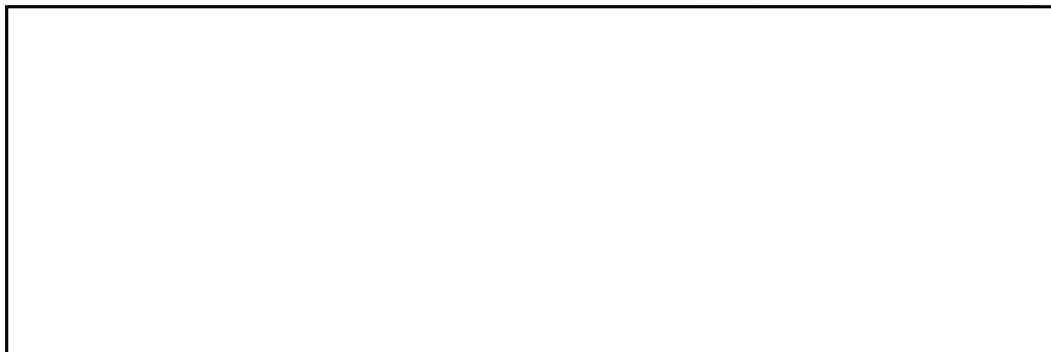
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He also stated that his unit's copies of Stalin's works had been "turned in," and that the stanza of the Soviet national anthem which extols Stalin is now being omitted.

The embassy also reports that a Russian-speaking Westerner who has made a special point of discussing the anti-Stalin drive with Soviet citizens has found that reaction tends to vary with the individual's position in Soviet society. Workers and taxi drivers, for example, express more bewilderment and shock than members of the professions. One worker said he could adjust to the news himself but wondered if he could explain it to his daughter.

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2. WEST GERMANS INCREASINGLY IMPATIENT WITH NATO

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The West German public and government are becoming increasingly impatient with NATO's inactivity in the political field, according to statements made to the West German embassy in London by Bonn's NATO representative, Blankenhorn. He was pessimistic over the condition of the

Western alliance, taking the view there was scarcely a problem on which NATO was genuinely united.

West German ambassador Herwarth told an American official in London that Chancellor Adenauer feels that the contact of ambassadors at North Atlantic Council meetings was not adequate for countering Soviet moves. He said Adenauer favors monthly meetings, in a NATO or similar context, of high-level Western economic and political representatives. The Bonn Foreign Ministry, however, does not want military problems lost sight of.

The American embassy in London also reports that the Foreign Office wants to discuss with Britain's NATO representative the atmosphere of discouragement he has reported prevailing in NATO circles. There is a feeling in the Foreign Office that the United States is partially responsible for current NATO frustrations by appearing cool to recent efforts to extend the scope of North Atlantic Council political discussions.

Comment

Adenauer's interest in expanding the scope of NATO activities is probably part of his effort to maintain his government's strongly pro-Western orientation, in view of determined Free Democratic and Socialist Party efforts to find a road to German unification by negotiation with Moscow.

**3. MALENKOV SAYS BULGANIN AND KHRUSHCHEV WILL
STRESS DISARMAMENT DURING LONDON VISIT**

25X1A



Former Soviet premier Malenkov told British prime minister Eden and foreign minister Lloyd on 16 March that disarmament was the only specific topic

he knew that Bulganin and Khrushchev would want to discuss in London, according to information given the American embassy by a British official.

Lloyd told Malenkov, however, that Middle East problems would have to be discussed and expressed alarm over the tension he had observed during his recent visit there, but Malenkov tried to discount the seriousness of the situation.

Comment

Jules Moch, French delegate at the UN disarmament talks in London, believes the USSR will time any important disarmament proposals to coincide with the Bulganin-Khrushchev visit, in an attempt to get the maximum propaganda advantage from them.



4. EAST GERMAN WORKERS OPPOSE FORMATION OF ARMY

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Widespread opposition of workers to the creation of an army has been noted throughout East Germany. [redacted]

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Workers' assemblies at Zittau, Goerlitz, and Ludwigsfelde called to approve resolutions endorsing the government's decision to form an army reportedly rejected the resolutions by overwhelming majorities. In spite of the overt opposition, however, officials reported to Berlin that the workers approved the resolutions. [redacted]

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Comment

Party and government efforts to whip up popular enthusiasm for the new army appear to be meeting with little success. [redacted]

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[redacted] additional evidence that the East German people oppose the creation of an army.

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THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700, 27 March)

Egyptian and Israeli patrols exchanged rifle and mortar fire for three hours on 26 March. No casualties were reported. Egypt claimed that three Israeli armored cars attacked an Egyptian post near the Gaza strip. [REDACTED] 25X1A

Saudi Arabia shipped 1,000-1,500 fifty-five gallon drums of automobile gasoline overland from Jidda, probably to Haqal on the Gulf of Aqaba, [REDACTED] 25X1

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[REDACTED] This is probably for the use of the Saudi troops and vehicles recently sent to Tebuk. [REDACTED] 25X1

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